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PACIFIC FRUIT EXPRESS COMPANY

June News Letter

San Francisco, June 25, 1958.

P.F.E. Loadings

	1958			1957		
	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total
May	26,797	1,029	27,826	26,989	1,876	28,865
January-May	136,014	10,071	146,085	131,266	6,379	137,645

While we have had an increase in carloadings during the first five months of this year, which was due primarily to adverse conditions in Florida along with other factors, we anticipate that loadings for the next seven months of this year will total 211,951 compared with 223,569 last year, a decrease of 11,654, or 5.2%.

Car Situation

Supplies in northern and southern California have been on day to day basis since first week in June and indications are that a low ratio of supply to loading will obtain until the third week in July. A consistent return of PFE cars from the East and the prompt and regular handling by our owning and contract railroads along with a fine spirit of cooperation manifesting throughout the PFE organization has resulted in minimum usage of foreign equipment so far in June.

Crop Conditions

Along Southern Pacific -

Oregon is in its lightest loading season which will extend through July. Medford storage pears have all been shipped. The new pear crops are progressing satisfactorily. In Klamath Basin there are several carloads of seed spuds remaining in storage. Planting of the new crop is well along and will be completed during the month. Frozen foods, canned goods, and some miscellaneous commodities constitute current loading from Willamette Valley points.

Northern California: Salinas lettuce moved in good volume through first two weeks in June then fell off sharply as harvesting reached the light acreage resulting from inability to plant during unusually rainy winter and spring months. Loadings will continue light until end of June when heavy July acreage will come into production. Bakersfield potato shipments have been moving in moderately heavy volume reaching a peak on

June 17th when 504 cars were shipped on both S.P. and Santa Fe. Loadings will decline steadily after June 20th but will continue well into July from late acreage. Movement for the season is running about 22% below last year due to poor yields caused by excessive rains during growing season. Warm weather is advancing maturity of Bakersfield cantaloupes and harvest is expected to start during week of June 23rd or about a week ahead of last year. Tree fruit movement from San Joaquin Valley was under way June 1st and had spread to Sacramento Valley and Hillside points by June 10th. Tomato harvest will start in Modesto area last week in June.

Southwest District: Lettuce movement from Willcox area has been in moderately heavy volume but at no time has it reached preseasonal predictions as to daily volume. Shipping continued at rate of 30 to 40 daily through June 21st then fell off sharply. Imperial cantaloupes reached a modest peak of 33 cars on June 16th and on same day peak at Yuma produced 205 shipments. Movement from both Valleys will decline steadily remainder of month. Cantaloupe harvest from relatively small acreages in Hyder, Aztec, Theba, and Maricopa areas is under way and will run into July. Potatoes and onions from Salt River Valley have moved in heavy volume through June 16th, but should decline sharply after the 25th. Along Los Angeles Division citrus loading will continue its gradual seasonal increase. Grapes from Coachella Valley commenced moving by freight June 6th and have increased gradually with peak period expected June 23rd through July 5th. Chino potato crops are nearing harvest and will be ready for digging about July 1st. Vegetable loading from coastal areas north to Guadalupe will drop rapidly after June 21st and then level off to a moderate daily volume.

T.& N.O.: Rains during week end of June 14th just about finished the tomato and melon harvest from Rio Grande Valley. Melon shipments from Laredo will decline steadily ending harvest by close of month. With the exception of a fairly heavy watermelon movement in July, perishable shipping off T.& N.O. will be very light through summer and fall months.

Along Union Pacific -

Utah-Idaho: 1957-58 potato movement entered its final stages with about 500 carloads to go during month of June. New early plantings are complete in southwestern Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, and are said to approximate or slightly exceed the acreage planted in 1957. Production of Red varieties will be decreased, but long Whites, Gems, and Russetts will be greater. Plantings in southeastern Idaho are beginning normally in the Twin Falls country and in Milford, Utah.

Fruit prospects are good throughout the district although hail destroyed the Hurricane (southern Utah) crop late in May, but this district has produced little during the past few years.

Northwestern District: During this month we should complete the shipping of last season's apple crop from the Yakima Valley but all other loading will be on a seasonal basis, consisting principally of frozen foods, beer, and other miscellaneous commodities.

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SACRAMENTO CALIF.

1958 JUN 31 AM 7 17

Pea harvest commenced shortly after the first of June and loading is in volume.

Eastern District: Loadings consist of packing house products, butter and eggs, and miscellaneous commodities averaging about 23 cars per day. An occasional car of mixed vegetables from Colorado started around the 15th of June.

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On June 2nd, an old timer, G. H. (Gerry) Howe, Chief Clerk, Traffic and Claims Department, San Francisco, passed away at the Southern Pacific Hospital. He had just completed thirty-five years of service the 1st of June. Gerry will be missed by the many friends and fellow workers with whom he associated over the long years of his P.F.E. service.

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IN MEMORIAM

The entire Perishable Transportation Industry was saddened by the death June 3 of Albert E. Klaproth. Al, who last year completed 35 years of service with the Pacific Fruit Express Company, had been the Company's Assistant General Manager at Chicago since 1946. Popular with shippers and receivers alike, he will be greatly missed from the Railroad Perishable scene by the countless friends he gained over the years. All knew him as a conscientious businessman and an outstanding person.

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Chas. Ahern

Vice President & General Manager